

Metra breaks ground on new Heritage Corridor Line stop

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Officials gather to break ground on Metra's Romeoville Station. Office of Rep. Dan Lipinski

Metra, Chicago's suburban passenger rail provider, broke ground a station at Romeoville, which will be a new stop along the Heritage Corridor Line.

"Getting a Metra stop has been a village goal for a long time, so we're very excited to break ground today," Romeoville Mayor John Noak said. "Having another transportation link to the city will be a great benefit for residents as well as businesses."

The Heritage Corridor Line runs between Joliet and Chicago Union Station. The new station is near the intersection of 135th Street and New Avenue. It's the first new stop on the Heritage Corridor since Metra's creation in 1984 and the first new stop on any Chicagoland Metra line since 2011. Construction is scheduled to be completed in the fall of this year, giving Romeoville residents a direct connection to downtown Chicago just in time for the holiday season.

"Once completed, this new station will mean more people in Romeoville and the surrounding area will be able to spend less of their valuable time each day driving on congested roads or traveling to less convenient Metra stations," Rep. Dan Lipinski (D-IL) said.

The project is estimated to cost \$4.9 million, with more than \$3.9 million of the funding coming through CMAP's Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) grant program. The village of Romeoville was also fortunate to receive a supplemental grant from the Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program for pedestrian access from 135th Street to the station.